REMARKS

The Abstract and disclosure are objected to for formalities. The drawings are objected to under 37 C.F.R. §183(a). Claims 4-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,987,756 to Ravindranath et al.

Applicant's Response Regarding the Abstract:

Applicant has amended the Abstract.

Applicant's Response to Specification Objection:

Applicant has amended the specification.

Applicant's Response to Drawing Objection:

Applicant is submitting Replacement Drawing sheet 1/2.

Applicant's Response to Rejections Under Section 102:

Applicant has amended the claims in response to Examiner's office action, and the specificity of the references was appreciated. Claim 4 now claims in part a "first SIP user agent" and a "second SIP user agent," and Applicant has associated communication features with SIP user agents. Further, Applicant has clarified a specific communication channel in a network for which the method is claimed, which includes a:

> communication channel...with...a first set of communication features supported by the first SIP user agent and available a second set of communication features supported by the second SIP user agent, **including at least one communication feature in the second set of communication features which is not supported by the first SIP user agent**

As Applicant understands, Ravindranath discusses features that are associated with endpoints: "As shown therein, table 175 includes... (v) field 190 containing features available for the endpoint (e.g., call waiting, call forwarding, etc)." (Col. 6, ll. 36-37). Ravindranath also discloses "The call processing handler 260 is coupled to a feature framework module 275 which maintains a list of features supported by the telephony **server**." (Col. 8, ll. 22-24). Ravindranath then discloses enabling the functionality of these features as follows:

> For example, if **an endpoint** requests a feature that the **telephony server** does not offer (such as call transfer), the call processing handler 260 sends a message to **another telephony server** that does provide such feature, if any, and requests assistance.

(Col. 8, ll. 27-33). Thus, Ravindranath discusses a method by which one **server** that has received a request from and endpoint to provide a feature the **server** does not support can find another **server**, one that can support the request, to help it provide that service. Here the requesting endpoint clearly supports the requested feature; it is the first contacted **server** that does not support the requested feature.

Applicant can find no discussion in Ravindranath regarding feature sets of one endpoint being **different** from a feature set of another endpoint in a communication channel, which is the focus of Applicant's claims. Thus, it follows that Applicant can find no teaching regarding how Ravindranath defines the feature sets of endpoints of a communication channel it establishes, when two endpoints are capable of supporting differing feature sets. Applicant notes a distinction between the features an endpoint can support, and which of those features a network will support for the endpoint once the endpoint is configured for a specific communication channel between specific endpoints. In other words, an endpoint may be able to support features that the network does not enable when the endpoint is configured for a certain communication path.

Without a specific teaching on the topic, Applicant refers to the last sentence in the Background section of Applicant's disclosure: "To date, if there is a difference in the set of features available at one endpoint in a SIP network and the set of features available at the other endpoint in the network, the endpoints communicate using their **lowest _common_ feature set**." In other words, the network establishes a communication channel and enables each endpoint with a feature set common to both. From this it appears that Ravindranath would configure the endpoints of a communication channel within its network by using the lowest common feature set for both endpoints. The system in Ravindranath would then not be the system for which Applicant claims the method, which includes a communication channel with: "**at least one communication feature in the second set of communication features which is not supported by the first SIP user agent**." In other words, the Ravindranath system is silent regarding

whether the endpoints have been configured to operate in the communication path with the same or different feature sets, so those of ordinary skill in the art would understand the system to configure endpoints to have the same feature sets. In either case, without a teaching on the limitation, a 35 USC 102 rejection cannot be supported.

Notwithstanding the above, Ravindranath does not teach the remaining elements of claim 4. In claim 4 Applicant claims

> arranging to exchange signaling information with the first and second user agents to **enable the second SIP user agent to utilize the at least one communication feature which is unsupported by the first SIP user agent** during communications with the first SIP user agent.

As noted, Ravindranath teaches a server that does not support a function finding another server that does, so that the feature is enabled. SIP user agents are endpoints, servers are not endpoints. Consequently, since claim 4 concerns endpoints, and Ravindranath concerns unsupported servers, Ravindranath does not teach Applicant's claim 4. Applicant respectfully requests the 35 USC 102 rejection of claim 4, and claims 5 and 6, which depend from and include all the limitations of claim 4, based on Ravindranath, be withdrawn.

> In amended claim 7 Applicant now claims in part:
>
> a communication channel between two end points…a first SIP user agent being a first end point and supporting a **basic** SIP communication feature set…a second SIP user agent being a second end point and supporting an **enhanced** SIP communication feature set.

As noted above, Ravindranath does not teach a network with SIP user agents having different feature sets in a communication channel, and thus does not teach this limitation of Applicant's amended claim 7.

> In claim 7 Applicant also claims:
>
> a SIP Basic Call Enhancer located within the communication channel between the first and second SIP user agents that enables the second SIP user agent to utilize the enhanced SIP communication feature set which is **unavailable to the first SIP user agent** when communicating with the first SIP user agent.
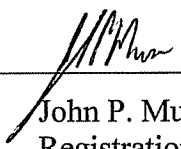
Without SIP user agents having different feature sets in a communication channel, Ravindranath necessarily cannot teach a call enhancer "enabling the second SIP user agent to utilize the enhanced SIP communication feature set which is unavailable to the first SIP user agent." Ravindranath thus does not teach this limitation of Applicant's claim 7. Applicant respectfully requests the 35 USC 102 rejection of claim 7, and claims 8-12, which depend from and include all the limitations of claim 7, based on Ravindranath, be withdrawn.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the objections and rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action are inapplicable to the present claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the objections and rejections and timely pass the application to allowance. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address. Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this paper. The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees due in connection with this paper, including fees for additional claims and terminal disclaimer fee, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2179.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated:_____11/10/13_____

By:_____

John P. Musone
Registration No. 44,961
(407) 736-6449

Siemens Corporation
Intellectual Property Department
170 Wood Avenue South
Iselin, New Jersey 08830